

REMARKS

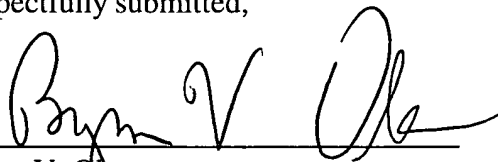
In the action dated September 8, 2006, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office required restriction among the following species:

- a. a single disclosed species of dermatological condition such as contact dermatitis, acne, rosacea, psoriasis, damage resulting from harmful UV radiation, etc. as recited in claim 5.
- b. A single disclosed species of furanones of formula I or III (Markush) among the compound as recited in claims 3-4 and 7.

Applicants elect species b drawn to a species of furanones of formula I or III consisting of claims 3-4 and 7 with traverse and respectfully request that the application be examined on the merits. Applicants believe that it would not create an undue burden on the Examiner to conduct a search encompassing all of the claims. Further, Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications to further prosecute non-elected groups.

Should any questions arise or if Applicants or Applicants' attorney can facilitate the examination of this application, it is respectfully requested that the PTO contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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